

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

SUNDAY OCTOBER 2

10.00am World Communion Sunday—Rev Anne Thomson
 DUTIES: Brian Willisroft (453 1257) Noeleen Willisroft,
 Isobel Napper Finance Brian Willisroft
 TEA/COFFEE: Joyce Dyer and Florence Wilson
 12noon - Cook Islands - K Rouvi
 2.00pm - Samoan Service The Reverend Anne Thomson

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9

10.00am -Morning Worship Alan Richardson
 DUTIES: Ian Mitchell and Margaret Mitchell and June Evans
 Finance Margaret Mitchell
 TEA/COFFEE: Shirley and Gifford Brown

12noon - Cook Islands - Rev Anne Thomson
2.00pm - SAMOAN WHITE SUNDAY

worship led by our children and young people in the Samoan community. All are warmly invited – lunch to follow

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16

10.00am -Morning Worship The Reverend Anne Thomson
 DUTIES: Ian Robertson (454 4513) Jenni Elmes,
 Finance: Tony Stevely
 TEA/COFFEE: Isobel Napper and Selina Mulder
 12noon - Cook Islands The Reverend Anne Thomson
 2.00pm - Samoan Service The Reverend Anne Thomson

SUNDAY OCTOBER 23

10.00am -Morning Worship - Reverend Tokerau Joseph
 DUTIES: Russell Duff (476 3494) Selina Mulder
 Finance R Duff TEA/COFFEE: Zena McKie and Isobel Napper
 12noon - Cook Islands - Reverend Tokerau Joseph
 2.00pm Samoan Service - Reverend Tokerau Joseph

SUNDAY OCTOBER 30

10.00am -Youth Sunday
 DUTIES: Nineva Vaitupu (455 3375) Les and Maureen Green
 Finance Les Green TEA/COFFEE: Margaret and Ian Mitchell
 12noon - Cook Islands - Youth Sunday

LECTIONARY READINGS During **October**, these are the readings that we will use in our services: the Revised Common Lectionary at the 10 am and 2 pm service, and Te Tia at the 12 noon service.

	Revised Common Lectionary	Te Tia (12 noon service)
October 9 Pentecost 17	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22:1-14	Angaanga 16:29-40
October 16 Pentecost 18	Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22	Mataio 22:15-22
October 23 Pentecost 19	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46	1 Ariki 3:1-15
October 30 Pentecost 20	Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12	Mataio 23:1-12

SENIOR MINISTER: The Reverend Tokerau Joseph, phone 477 7792 cell 027 371 4733
PART TIME ASSISTANT MINISTER: The Reverend Anne Thomson 477 7150 cell 027 467 5488
PART TIME PASTORAL ASSISTANT MINISTER : The Rev John Sinclair (473 9950 or 027 436 9204)
FIRST CHURCH BELL RINGERS - Practice 7.30pm Monday and Thursday nights;

WEEKLY EVENTS
 Mondays 1.30pm Mah Jong - McLean Room
 Mon & Thurs 7.30pm Bells Practice
 Fridays 6pm Youth Group Burns Hall

OCTOBER
 TUES 11 4.30pm Property Committee
 WED 12 6.00pm SESSION
 Thurs 13 Craft group meets
Sun 16 AGM of First Church 5pm Burns Hall
 Mon 17 4pm Finance Committee
 Tues 18 2pm APW Mclean Room
 WED 19 7.30pm DEACONS COURT
 Thurs 27 Craft group meets

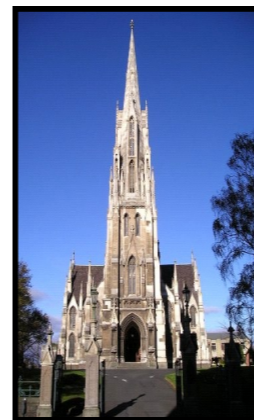
PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT FOOD BANK –

This month the Foodbank would welcome contributions of rice, cereals, spreads, sugar and toilet paper. Each Sunday at the 10 am service, we include contributions to the Foodbank with our offerings. Presbyterian Support are most grateful for your on-going support for families in need in our city.



Tagga Tour with Timo Tagaloa - Kaikorai Church, Taieri Road

A full weekend of opportunities to engage with **Timo Tagaloa of Athletes in Action** during the RWC. Timo will speak at each event over the weekend of his life in sport, playing American football, Rugby 7's for NZ, representing Samoa at the RWC91, growing up in West Auckland and living the Christian faith - his passion today is to see people living strongly for God.
Friday 14th. Family Fun Night 6pm –8 30pm. Games for all ages, rugby skills, challenge your parents, challenge yourself, hear life stories from Timo, share a great supper. *Gold Coin koha.*
Saturday 15th. Men's Breakfast 8am. You will receive a BIG Breakfast, fascinating and challenging speaker, and great company. *Suggested donation \$10.*
Saturday 15th. Semi-final Dinner 7pm to late. 3 course dinner, life stories from Timo, watch the first semi-final on our big screen. *Suggested donation up to \$25*
Sunday 16th. Service 10am. Kaikorai Youth Group leading the service and Timo speaking
To register please phone the Kaikorai Presbyterian Church office 476 2967 or email admin@kaikoraichurch.co.nz . The costs shown are a suggested donation. Payment can be made at the event, in advance to the office, or online. (the office will give you details).



FIRST CHURCH OF OTAGO

415 Moray Place, Dunedin

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2011

FIRST CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

"We are striving to become a truly multi-cultural community, providing a warm, creative and affirming home base, enabling us to reach out with the Good News to those working and living in the inner-city and beyond."

Message from The Reverend Anne Thomson



Dear First Church folk

The Rugby World Cup in Dunedin will be over (or almost) by the time you read this – last game here on Sunday night. First Church has been looking extra colourful with the flags and bunting hung around it – our thanks to those with a head for heights who have climbed the ladders each week to change the bunting to the appropriate team colours for the week, and hung up the flags of the different countries. (I believe Ian and Margaret Mitchell have been largely involved, with help and encouragement from Malcolm West and John Sinclair.) Thank you also to Tony Stevely who got hold of most of the flags and bunting for us, and to Toleafoa Vaitupu for the Samoan flag – Manu Samoa may have been playing at the other end of the country, but they have had staunch support in the South.

It seems very fitting to have so many flags round the church for World Communion Sunday, 2 October. The flags will help us as we worship to be aware that we are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses", the communion of saints which exists through time and round the world. The many visitors to our services are also a weekly reminder that we are part of the worldwide church.

I am coming to the end of my three months' "full time" while Tokerau has been on leave. I would like to thank you, the people of First Church, for your support and concern and encouragement, always, but particularly in recent weeks. Many of you have asked me how I've been finding it, and have shown a care for me that has been warming and humbling. I have enjoyed the challenges and new experiences – the King Edward Technical College centennial service, appearing on national television over issues of insurance, attending Deacons' Court and some of the committee meetings. But I am also looking forward to welcoming Tokerau back as senior minister, and I will be taking holiday in the last two weeks of October. *May God bless you and make you a blessing to*



FIRST CHURCH SESSION CLERK Nan Rickard

Greetings to all: At the moment at First Church we are experiencing "The World in Union" as we welcome visitors from various countries to the Church and Heritage Centre. Most of these visitors have spoken of their delight to be here, and if they are followers of Rugby, their appreciation of seeing the flags of their country in the Church. Thanks to Ian Mitchell and Tony Stevely for organising this.

I was unable to attend the previous meeting of Session, but will be attending a Parish Review Training Workshop next Wednesday evening. A new format for Parish Reviews (formerly Five-yearly Visitations) is being developed. This will be based around a five-year cycle of annual self-review, with an external review conducted by the Presbytery every five years. The purpose of the review process is to provide a snapshot of the state of the parish, identifying aspects of parish life to be celebrated and developed, and providing a tool to help develop goals and strategies to move forward.

I look forward to a good attendance at the **Annual General Meeting** which will be held on **Sunday 16th October at 5.00 pm. ea and coffee will be served before the meeting at 4.30 pm.**

Lord of Millennia, Redeemer of each moment, Head of the church, we thank you that there are appropriate seasons and opportune times for everything under the sun, there is a time for birth and a time for death, a time for sowing, a time for reaping, a time to prune back the old, a time to graft in the new, a time to demolish and a time to rebuild, a time to repent, a time to celebrate a time to mourn, a time to dance, a time to throw away, a time to collect. a time to hug, a time to stand alone. A time to search, a time to lose oneself, a time to hold tight, a time to throw away, a time to tear apart, a time to stitch up, a time to be quiet, a time to speak out, Above all else, let us be clothed with love that binds everything together in complete harmony, to the glory of God. Amen. (Inspired by Ecclesiastes 3 and Colossians 3)



TUITUI TIVAEVAE

At the end of September the Rev. Robert Robati-Mani, his wife Marina (nee Rouvi) and their family were in Dunedin to celebrate papa Kopu's 70th birthday. Following the 12 o'clock service on 25 September, Robert showed the First Church *ekalesia* the *tivaevae* which had been made as part of the Uapou Fellowship held in Hamilton in June.

The *tivaevae* had a theme of Noah's Ark, and each *ekalesia* around the country brought a square embroidered with their representative animal – First Church had the penguin, *hoiho*. During a *tivaevae* workshop the squares were stitched together by some of the mothers, a border of rainbow colours was added, and the whole stitched on to a backing sheet (donated by the Bates family). The *tivaevae* was created in 1 ½ hours, and blessed during the Sunday worship service.

The completed *tivaevae* is just beautiful. It represents the unity/ togetherness of young people. It was awesome to see people of different ages learning and sharing together throughout the workshop.



APW REPORT

The **AGM was held on 30th August** (delayed 2 weeks because of the snow.) Rev Anne Thomson chaired this meeting - \$200 was donated to the Dunedin Night Shelter Trust.

The **next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th October at 2pm in the McLean Room**—guest speaker will be Mr Lindsay Kennet, fashion artist and milliner who was one of the interested visitors to the recent Hat and Accessories display in the Heritage Centre. All interested (invite a friend) welcome to attend. Wear or bring a hat if you have one.—Sales table.

SPRING SERVICE- APW extends thanks and appreciation to all who picked daffodils at Mr Les Cleveland's property and those who prepared the bunches for distribution. Thanks also to those who supplied flowers for the church display and to the people who delivered flowers to members no longer able to attend worship or who have been suffering health problems.



CRAFT GROUP URGENTLY requires double knitting wool. Please leave at the church office if you have any wool to spare or contact Shirley brown 476 3185 or Dorothy Sinclair 473 9950

FIRST CHURCH INSURANCE

The Deacons' Court have up until this year insured all First Church buildings for replacement values. This has always been a significant annual cost to the Church and last year the premium was \$19,683.

We were advised by the national church last month that this year's premium would increase to \$71,005 (a 360% increase). A result arising from the consequences of the devastating earthquake to strike Christchurch.

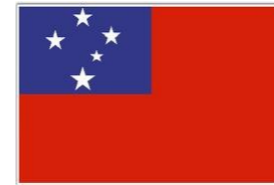
First Church is not in a financial position to pay this premium. The Deacons' Court advised the congregation at the quarterly Communion Service held on 4th September that only fire and property damage insurance would be taken out. The natural disaster insurance (i.e. earthquakes flood and storm damage) would be cancelled. This decision has not been made lightly but it is impossible to commit such a large proportion of the Church's resources to the collective insurance cover proposed by the national Church. The premium for the reduced cover will still cost \$24,068.

The question of changing the cover to functional replacement insurance, especially for the Church building will be investigated before the next insurance expiry date.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN A SCIENTIFIC WORLD Monday and Tuesday, 7-8th November 2011 Frank Nichol Room, Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, Dunedin. Cost: FREE: \$10 donation to cover morning and afternoon tea/coffee/biscuits appreciated A two-day conference exploring the challenges of ministering in a scientific world, and the theological, social and ethical issues relevant to such an enterprise. The full programme is available at www.pptnz.org. The conference is open to anyone with an interest in the relationship between science and faith. **KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Professor D. Gareth Jones** Gareth Jones is Director of the Bioethics Centre and Professor of Anatomy at the University of Otago, Gareth's talks are entitled *Playing God* (Monday, 10am) and *Designing People* (Tuesday, 9.30am). **FAITH-SCIENCE WORKSHOP SESSION: Professor Grant Gillett** Grant Gillett is a neurosurgeon, and professor of bioethics at the University of Otago Bioethics Centre in Dunedin. In this session (Tuesday, 4pm), Grant will briefly outline the science of various reproductive technologies now available in society and facilitate a discussion around the ethical-theological issues arising from their use, and how we might apply this knowledge in the pastoral setting. **Registration:** Please register before 14 October 2011 by emailing **Mary Somerville** with your contact information: msomer@orcon.net.nz **Further Information:** Please contact **Dr. Craig Preston** (Conference Convener) at craig.preston@otago.ac.nz, 0277275368 (Mobile) or visit our website www.pptnz.org

"CLIMATE CHANGE: JUST SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE GRAPES" - a panel discussion looking at major ethical issues surrounding the climate change debate. Venue: **Burns Lecture Theatre 2**, on **Tuesday 11 October** at 5.00 pm (tbc) Panellists: **Rod Oram**, climate scientist **Dr Jim Salinger** and Chief Executive of Methodist Mission, **Laura Black**. This meeting is being hosted jointly by the Centre and CSAFE, the University's Centre for the Study of Agriculture, Food and Environment

SAMOAN COMMUNITY NEWS



The Manu Samoan Supporters Club

As the weather is getting warmer, we find ourselves in the beginning of the Spring season. The bees, the butterflies and the flags are out in force as the Rugby World Cup Party is in full swing around the whole country. The Samoan congregation of the First Church are rallying around the Manu Samoan fundraising activities to support their team. This call of help came from the President of the Samoan Rugby Union for financial assistance to support the team while they're competing in the World cup tournament.

The fundraising activities were organised by the steering committee chaired by Afioga Tofilau Nina Alai and has included sausage sizzles, a walk-thon and a fiafia night held at EFKS. The fiafia night involved performances from a number of different groups and was followed by an evening meal. Tickets were sold for the function and donations were received for the Manu Samoan team throughout the night. Overall it was a successful evening, in which many of the Samoan community showed up to show their support for their team.

Last week members of the committee including Satele La Faatoese went to Auckland to hand over the Otago and Southland contribution to assist the Manu Samoa Rugby team for their campaign for the World Cup. Overall the Samoan community was able to gift to the team just over \$7000 for their campaign. Go Manu

White Sunday

As White Sunday is getting closer, the preparation is getting intense for the Sunday school and the youth. As a reminder All First Church members are invited to the White Sunday Service which will be held on the 9th October at 2pm and followed by a supper at Burns Hall. *Tolealoa Fomai Vaitupu*

Thinking about the Bible. Alan Richardson has written:

In my sermon on 25 September, I suggested that the churches have largely abandoned the King James Version of the Bible and replaced it with a variety of other translations. I left the congregation with some questions to consider about the Bible. These are some of the important things to think about.

1. What particular version of the Bible do you normally think about in relation to the Bible? Is it the King James Version, another particular version, or no version in particular?
2. Do you have a particular version of the Bible that you prefer reading to any other?
3. How has your own attitude to the Bible in general and to the King James Version in particular changed during your lifetime?
4. What are the good and bad things for you about the King James Version?
5. Have your own Bible reading habits changed during your lifetime? Why/why not?
6. What particular changes in the society around us have had most effect on reducing the impact of the Bible generally.



WILLIAM TYNDALE was born in Gloucestershire about 1491, which at that time continued to be an area of dissenting Christian groups. At an early age, certainly while he was in his early teens he attended Oxford University where with his enquiring mind he soaked up all the new learning that became available as a result of the European Renaissance.

He met with leading scholars from all over Europe and although the teaching was all in the Latin language he clung to his dialectic English. He was critical of the structure of the courses he was obliged to complete for his Master of Arts labelling them as brainwashing in dry scholasticism.

Following his graduation he went on to Cambridge where he continued to explore the new understandings that were being disseminated.

Having completed his time there he returned to Gloucestershire where he found employment in the house of Sir John Walsh who employed him as a tutor for his boys. Observing some of the work he was doing with the boys Lady Walsh asked him to translate some of the Latin texts she had into English so that she could read and understand them. This led to disputes with the local clergy but in the shelter of

the Walsh family he formed a view that the lowliest ploughboy should have as much access to the Bible as any priest. This in a society that was heavily dominated by the church. The Bible was regarded as too sacred for ordinary people to be able to read. Even a translation of the Lord's Prayer into English was forbidden,

Eventually, as he persevered with his plan to translate the Bible into the language of the people, William travelled to London to seek the support of the Bishop of London. Unfortunately the Bishop was a political appointee and he was more concerned about his own advancement than any illegal translation.

William fled to Antwerp after being charged with Heresy and spent most of the rest of his working life there. It was here that he continued his task of translating the Greek of the earliest texts of the New Testament into English. All previous English translations had been from the Latin of the Vulgate, which Jerome had translated in 368. Copies of his earliest translations of the New Testament, completed in 1525, have not survived. Smuggled into England in shipments of woollen goods they were seized, denounced and destroyed but William persevered and more copies were produced and secretly shipped across the channel. He then turned to the Old Testament. He taught himself Hebrew and after a disastrous shipwreck that destroyed all his work he completed his task and the Bible was now in English.

The forces against him continued to plot his death and they paid a betrayer to befriend him in order that they could capture him. Imprisoned in a stone dungeon he survived for a time but eventually he was tried, and executed by strangulation and his body was burned in 1536. - Almost 100 years later his work was used, without acknowledgment, and forms almost 80% of the Authorised Version of the Bible.